

INS. 06

ABSTRACT

An information recording medium and information reproducing apparatus by which information reproducing and tracking control can be made by the utilization of near-field light. On an information recording medium 3, a servo pattern zone is provided forming servo bits for tracking control. In this servo pattern zone, alternately arranged as servo both on a read-out track are a first groove having a depth constantly or gradually increasing in one direction perpendicular to bit a direction of the read-out track of a reproducing probe 1 and a depth direction of the medium and a second groove made reverse in depth increasing direction to the first groove. By making incident the near-field light 5 produced in a microscopic aperture 2 of the reproducing probe 1 on the servo pattern zone, it is possible to obtain a tracking detection signal that has a waveform different depending on a deviation from a center axis of the read-out track. According to the tracking detection signal, the reproducing probe 1 is controlled in position.